Message Text

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PAGE 01 BREMEN 00245 240835Z ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMCONSUL BREMEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2284

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION USBERLIN

AMCONSUL DUESSELDORF

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

AMCONSUL HAMBURG

AMCONSUL MUNICH

AMCONSUL STUTTGART

UNCLAS BREMEN 245

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PDIP, GW

SUBJECT: SCHEEL, SCHMIDT, CARSTENS, AND BRANDT ATTEND
CEREMONY FOR BUERGERMEISTER KAISEN'S 90TH BIRTHDAY

SIX HUNDRED INVITED PARTICIPANTS ASSEMBLED ON MAY 22 IN THE BREMEN RATHAUS FOR A CEREMONY HONORING BREMEN'S GRAND OLD MAN, ALT-BUERGERMEISTER WILHELM KAISEN (SPD) ON HIS 90TH BIRTHDAY. THE WELL-WISHERS WERE LED BY GERMANY'S TOP POLITICAL LEADERSHIP WHICH INCLUDED FEDERAL PRESIDENT SCHEEL, CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT, BUNDESTAG PRESIDENT CARSTENS, SPD CHAIRMAN BRANDT, BREMEN BUERGERMEISTER KOSCHNICK, AND MANY OTHERS. THE SPEAKERS PAID TRIBUTE TO KAISEN, WHO AS BUERGERMEISTER OF THE WAR-RAVAGED CITY DURING THE MOST DIFFICULT YEARS OF RECONSTRUCTION, FROM 1945 TO 1965, UNDERSTOOD HOW TO HARNESS THE ENERGIES OF ALL CITIZENS. TO WIN THE COOPERATION AND RESPECT OF THE CITY'S BUSINESS AND BANKING COMMUNITY, WITHOUT ABANDONING HIS INTENSE DEDICATION TO THE WELFARE OF THE WORKING-CLASS POPULATION. THEY ACCLAIMED HIS STATESMANSHIP AS AN SPD UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 BREMEN 00245 240835Z

LEADER AND MEMBER OF THE BUNDESRAT DURING A PERIOD IN WHICH THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC WAS CONFRONTER WITH A NUMBER OF HISTORIC FOREIGN POLICY AND POLITICAL/MILITARY DECISIONS. THEY STRESSED HIS PRAGMATISM, HIS MODERATE UNDOCTRINAIRE VIEWS, AND HIS EARLY ADVOCACY OF PRO-WESTERN AND ANTI-NEUTRALIST POLICIES WHICH HIS OWN PARTY (THE SPD) ADOPTED ONLY AT A LATER DATE. THE IMPRESSIVE CEREMONY AND THE

ASSEMBLAGE OF THE FRG'S POLITICAL NOTABLES UNDERSCORED THE COUNTRY'S ESTEEM FOR ONE OF POSTWAR GERMANY'S OUTSTANDING, MOST DISTINGUISHED AND MOST RESPECTED LEADERS. AMBASSADOR STOESSEL SENT KAISEN AN APPROPRIATE CONTRATULATORY BIRTHDAY MESSAGE. SCHIFFMAN

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Message Attributes

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Subject: SCHEEL, SCHMIDT, CARSTENS, AND BRANDT ATTEND CEREMONY FOR BUERGERMEISTER KAISEN'S 90TH BIRTHDAY SIX

HUNDRED INVITED PARTICIPANTS ASSEMBLED ON MAY

TAGS: PDIP, GE, (KAISEN, ALT-BUERGERMEISTER WILHELM)

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